

From: David
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:06pm
Subject: MicroSoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not fully make reparations for the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor make it difficult for them to commit similar actions in the future.

None of the settlement provisions will keep Microsoft from abusing its current monopoly position in the operating system market. This is important in view of the seriousness of Microsoft's track record.

Most importantly, the proposed settlement doesn't correct Microsoft's previous actions. There are no provisions that redress their previous monopolistic abuses. Why is this? They only (attempt to) prohibit the future repetition of those abuses, which is puzzling in itself.

The MicroSoft antitrust settlement goes against everything the law stands for. If a person or organization is able to commit crimes, benefit from those crimes, and then receive, as a "punishment", merely instructions that they cannot commit those crimes again, they have still benefited from them.

That is not justice, not for the victims of their abuses nor for Americans in general, and I find it personally appalling that no substantial monetary penalty has been considered.

While the Court's desire that a settlement be reached is honorable, it is wrong to reach a settlement, just for settlement's sake, especially with a company that still refuses to admit wrongdoing.

Thank you for considering my opinion.
Sincerely,

David Barbara Jr.
Chico, California